FOOTNOTES
FOR CHAPTER V

-WIZARD OF OZ-

THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ IS AN AMERICAN FAIRYTALE WRITTEN BY L. FRANK BAUM IN THE EARLY 1900S.

WHILE STRONGLY INSPIRED BY LEWIS CARROLL'S ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND, BAUM FOUND CARROLL'S PLOTS TOO INCOHERENT.

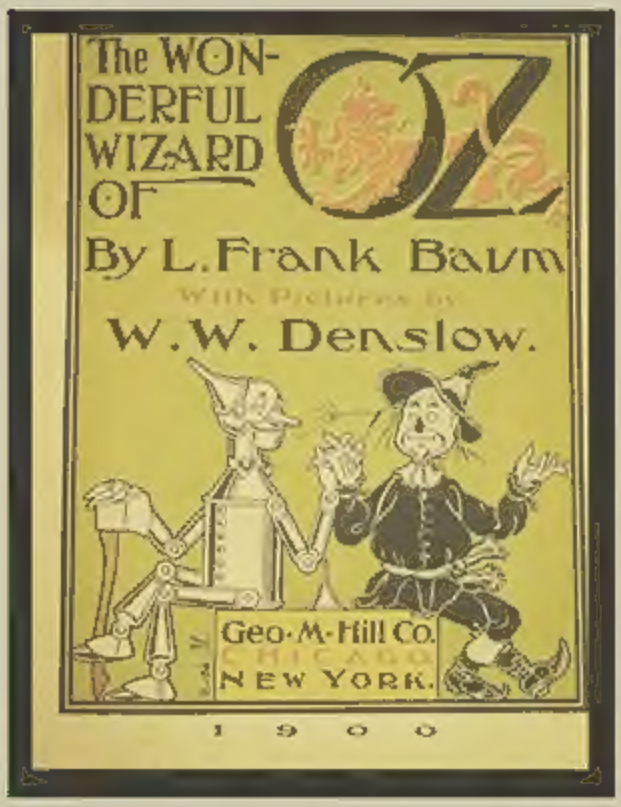
HE IDENTIFIED THE BOOKS' SOURCE OF POPULARITY AS ALICE HERSELF, A CHILD WITH WHOM THE READERS COULD IDENTIFY.

LIKE CARROLL, BAUM REJECTED THE IDEA THAT CHILDREN'S BOOKS SHOULD BE SATURATED WITH MORALS, INSTEAD BELIEVING THAT CHILDREN SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO BE CHILDREN.

ALTOUGH HE WROTE THE STORY WITHOUT ANY THOUGHT OF SEQUEL, THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN WROTE LETTERS TO HIM, REQUESTING THAT HE CRAFT ANOTHER STORY ABOUT OZ.

IN 1904, HE GRUDGINGLY WROTE AND PUBLISHED THE FIRST SEQUEL, THE MARVELOUS LAND OF OZ.

BAUM ALSO WROTE SEQUELS IN 1907, 1908, AND 1909.



IN HIS 1911 THE EMERALD CITY OF OZ, HE WROTE THAT HE COULD NOT CONTINUE, BECAUSE OZLAND HAD LOST CONTACT WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD. THE CHILDREN REFUSED TO ACCEPT THIS STORY, AND IN 1913 AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER UNTIL HIS DEATH, BAUM WROTE AN OZ BOOK, ULTIMATELY WRITING 13 SEQUELS.

BAUM ONCE WROTE "TO PLEASE A CHILD IS A SWEET AND A LOVELY THING THAT WARMS ONE'S HEART AND BRINGS ITS OWN REWARD."

-CAT LIVES:

IN MANY CULTURES, CATS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE MULTIPLE LIVES.

IN MANY COUNTRIES, THEY ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE NINE LIVES, BUT IN ITALY, GERMANY, GREECE, AND BRAZIL, THEY ARE SAID TO HAVE SEVEN.

IN TURKISH AND ARABIC TRADITIONS, THE NUMBER OF LIVES IS SIX.

MANY CULTURES HAVE NEGATIVE SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT CATS, ESPECIALLY BLACK CATS, THOUGHT TO BRING BAD LUCK OR TO BE WITCHES' FAMILIARS USED TO AUGMENT THEIR POWERS AND SKILLS.

BUT SEVERAL ANCIENT RELIGIONS BELIEVED CATS WERE EXALTED SOULS, COMPANIONS OR GUIDES FOR HUMANS, ALL KNOWING BUT MUTE SO THEY CANNOT INFLUENCE DECISIONS MADE BY HUMANS.

IN FACT, ACCORDING TO AN OLD ITALIAN LEGEND, ON THE SAME NIGHT THAT MARY GAVE BIRTH TO JESUS, A VIRGIN CAT IN BETHLEHEM GAVE BIRTH TO A KITTEN. IT BECAME THE "GOOD" CAT OF CHRISTIAN MYTH, THE ANIMAL CREATED BY GOD IN RESPONSE TO THE DEVIL'S CREATION OF THE MOUSE.

-SUMMONING CIRCLES.

TRADITIONALLY, CIRCLES WERE BELIEVED BY RITUAL MAGICIANS TO FORM A PROTECTIVE BARRIER BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND WHAT THEY SUMMONED. BUT PRACTITIONERS GENERALLY CAST CIRCLES TO CONTAIN AND CONCENTRATE THE ENERGY THEY RAISE DURING A RITUAL.

THESE CIRCLES MAY OR MAY NOT BE PHYSICALLY MARKED OUT ON THE GROUND, AND A VARIETY OF ELABORATE PATTERNS FOR CIRCLE MARKINGS CAN BE FOUND IN GRIMOIRES AND MAGICAL MANUALS.

IT MAY BE DRAWN IN SALT OR CHALK, OR MERELY VISUALISED. THE FOUR CARDINAL DIRECTIONS ARE OFTEN PROMINENTLY MARKED, SUCH AS WITH FOUR CANDLES.

IN CEREMONIAL MAGIC TRADITIONS, THE FOUR DIRECTIONS ARE COMMONLY RELATED TO THE FOUR ARCHANGELS OR TO THE FOUR CLASSICAL ELEMENTS.

OTHER CEREMONIAL TRADITIONS HAVE CANDLES BETWEEN THE QUARTERS (NORTH-EAST, NORTH-WEST AND SO ON).

FINALLY, AN INCANTATION MUST BE RECITED STATING THE PURPOSE AND NATURE OF THE CIRCLE.

-APOCALYPTIC OBJECTS:

IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION, UPON THE LAMB'S OPENING OF THE FIRST FOUR SEALS, FOUR HORSEMEN APPEAR: "THE FIRST RODE A WHITE HORSE, AND CARRIED A BOW. A CROWN WAS GIVEN TO HIM, AND HE WENT FORTH AS A CONQUEROR BENT ON CONQUEST."

"THE SECOND RODE A RED HORSE, AND WAS GIVEN POWER TO TAKE PEACE FROM THE EARTH, SO THAT PEOPLE WOULD SLAUGHTER ONE ANOTHER. AND HE WAS GIVEN A GREAT SWORD. THE THIRD RODE A BLACK HORSE, AND HELD A PAIR OF SCALES IN HIS HAND."

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY WIDELY DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF THESE PASSAGES OVER THE CENTURIES. BUT MOST BELIEVE THE HORSEMEN'S STRANGE ITEMS ARE BUT MERE SYMBOLS OF THE CALAMITIES THEY WREAK.

OTHERS HAVE SPECULATED THAT, LIKE THE HORSES, THESE OBJECTS OF THE APOCALYPSE ARE TOOLS, WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE HORSEMEN TO CHANNEL MALEVOLENT ENERGIES AND FOCUS THEIR POWERS TO DISASTROUS PROPORTIONS.

NO ONE WAS EVER QUOTED OR EVEN CREDITED FOR THESE PARTICULAR SPECULATIONS. AS FOR THE ROLE OF THE GIVEN CROWN, IT REMAINS UNKNOWN.

BUT THE FACT THAT IT IS GIVEN, NOT TAKEN, INDICATES A THIRD PERSON GIVING AUTHORITY TO THE RIDER TO ACCOMPLISH HIS WORK.